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human or non-human animal body, wherein said method involves nuclear spin
polarisation of an MR imaging agent by means of spin refrigeration.

Remarks

Applicants have amended the specification to cross reference the parent application which is a PCT application designating the United States. Applicants have also amended the specification to add the required headings and move the text to be in the required order.

Applicants have cancelled claims 1-34, without prejudice and have added new claims 35-66. A clean version of the claims is attached hereto.

Applicants are submitting herewith a copy of the International Search Report which issued on International Application number PCT/GB00/01888, of which the present application is a continuation. All of the publications cited in the International Search Report are listed on the attached Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicants respectfully assert that all amendments are fairly based on the specification, and respectfully request their entry.

Respectfully submitted,



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Specification (marked-up version showing amendments)

Page 1, line 5, insertion of:

This application is a continuation application of international application number PCT/GB00/01888 filed May 17, 2000, the entire disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Background of Invention

Page 2, lines 1-6:

polarising agents, for example OMRI contrast agents (see, e.g. WO 98/58272 to the present Applicant) or hyperpolarised gases to achieve *ex vivo* nuclear spin polarisation of non zero nuclear spin nuclei in an administrable MR imaging agent. By polarising agent is meant any agent suitable for performing *ex vivo* polarisation of an MR imaging agent.

Page 4, line 13, insertion of:

Summary of Invention

Page 7, line 15, insertion of:

Brief Description of the Figures

Figure 1 is a schematic diagram showing the interactions between the electronic singlet and triplet states of a photoactive molecule;

Figure 2 presents plots of absorption and nuclear polarization showing the solid effect in its pure form;

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Figure 3 presents plots of absorption and nuclear polarization showing the differential solid effect;

Figure 4 shows the energy levels of Ni^{2+} in sapphire when the c-axis is parallel to the field direction; and

Figure 5 shows the energy levels of Ni^{2+} in sapphire when the c-axis is perpendicular to the field direction.

Detailed Description of the Invention

Page 35, line 13, deletion of:

[Figure 1 is a schematic diagram showing the interactions between the electronic singlet and triplet states of a photoactive molecule;

Figure 2 shows the solid effect in its pure form;

Figure 3 shows the differential solid effect;

Figure 4 shows the energy levels of Ni^{2+} in sapphire when the c-axis is parallel to the field direction; and

Figure 5 shows the energy levels of Ni^{2+} in sapphire when the c-axis is perpendicular to the field direction.]

Page 35, line 22, insertion of:

Examples

The following examples illustrate certain preferred embodiments of the instant invention but are not intended to be illustrative of all embodiments.

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Page 37, line 25, insertion of:

It is apparent that many modifications and variations of the invention as hereinabove set forth may be made without departing from the spirit and scope thereof. The specific embodiments described are given by way of example only, and the invention is limited only by the terms of the appended claims.

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